the Congress Party in the country. *(Interruptions)* You will be thrown into the dustbin of history. Don't try to play any dirty games. *(Interruptions)* You lost power in Tamil Nadu 24 years back. You will not be able to come back to power in Tamil Nadu. *(Interruptions).* Sir, I strongly condemn the imposition of President's Rule in the State of Assam.

6. 00 p. M.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARA-JAN: That remark should be expunged.

SHRT PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): There is nothing unparliamentary. He gave a caution. There is nothing in that.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARA-JAN: Let the Chair give his ruling I am appealing to the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): Tf there is any thing unparliamentary

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARA-5AN[1]. I am not talking of 'unparliamentary'. What I want to bring to your notice is that the hon. Member just now said, if anything is done which the Central Government is entitled to, if it is so advised under the Constitution of India, Tamil Nadu will become another Punjab or Assam. *(Interruptions).*

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Punjab is still a part of India. Punjab is not Pakistan.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Several times severai expressions are used.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Punjab is not Pakistan, Assam is not Burma.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARA-JAN: Already they are converting Parliament into Punjab.

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Only I want to know whether we are sitting beyond six.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): Mr. Gopalsamy, please sit down. I hope you have[1] concluded. Yes, Shri Chaturanan Mishra.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अभी जिस ढंग से हम लोग असम पर बहस कर रहे थे और बहस करते करते हम लोग तमिल नाडु में चले गये, अगर यही होना इस सदन का रहा, तो पता नहीं कि आगे क्या आएगा । हमारी समझ में नहीं आता ।

हमारे पिछड़े से, देश के सामने...
(व्यवधान)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): Now you may please stop. You can continue tomorrow. The Minister will now make the statement.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER—RECENT VISIT BY THE COMMERCE AND LAW AND JUSTICE MINISTER TO AFGHANISTAN

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY): Sir, in response to an invitation from the Minister for Commerce of Afghanistan, I visited Afghanistan from 30th December, 1990 to 1st January, 1991. This is the first bilateral visit of a Minister of Shri Chandra Shekhar's Government to a friendly country.

I was accompanied by a delegation of senior officials of various Ministries of the Government of India and experts as well as senior representatives of commercial establishments connec't'd with Indo-Afghan trade and economic relations.

I had detailed discussions with His Excellency the Commerce Minister of Afghanistan, Mr. Zakim Shah as well as with the Deputy Prime Minister-cum-Minister for Planning aid the Minister for Light Industries and Food Stuff.

The discussions were held in a warm and cordial atmosphere. Both sides appreciated the sincere efforts made jointly by

[Shri Subramanian Swamy]

the Indian delegation and that of Afghanistan to identify areas of common interest where the two countries could consider economic and commer; ial interaction to their mutual advantage. Both sides also noted with satisfaction the substantial growth in their bilateral trade during the preceding years and agreed to take further steps to increase the same in the near future. Items like fresh and dry fruits, precious stones, hides and skins, etc. would be seriously considered for increased imports by India.

The Indian side expressed its willingness to participate actively in the economic recovery and development of Afghanistan through joint ventures, consultancy, and credit arrangements. Cooperation in the development of telecommunication infra-structure was also identified by both sides. The Afghan side expressed interest in receiving Indian assistance in the develop-ment and setting up of industrial estates. They also indiacted their desire for entering into joint ventures in industries like leather processing textile raisin processing, etc. The Indian side expressed their willingness to make specific proposals in this regard.

The Afghan side indicated their full satisfaction with the quality of the buses supplied earlier by India to Afghanistan and reiterated their desire to import additional buses from India.

Both sides discussed possibilities of co-operation in the mining sector where India offered to share its experience and expertise in an active manner.

Both sides identified the need for promo-ion of industrial cooperation, through adoption and facilitation of joint ventures and projects through participation by public and private sectors. It vvas agreed that bipartite and tripartite partnership in trade and industrial cooperation would be en-courged. In this connection, the Indian side agreed to take steps to encourage the private sector in India to send a delegation to Afghanistan as early as possible.

Both sides agreed to remove trade cons-traints in order to encourage a better en-vironment for expansion of bilateral trade. For this purpose, it was agreed to set up a Joint Trade Advisory Committee on Indo-Afghan Trade in Kabul and Delhi.

I also called on the President of the Republic of Afghanistan, His Excellency, Dr. Najibullah and exchanged views with him on the latest situation in respect of the bilateral relations between India and Afghanistan as well as other matters of mutual interest. I also called on the Prime Minister of Afghanistan. His Excellency, F. Khaliqyar and the Foreign Minister of Afghanistan, H. E. Mr. Wakil. All of them unequivocally stated that Jammu & Kashmir was and would continue to be an in-tegral part of India and any outside interference should not be tolerated. Eqnalry-they resent outside interference in the internal affairs of Afehanistan. Thev also stated that the Ministrial visit would strengthen further the age-old bond and friendship betweeln the two countries.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SBRT M. A. BABY): There are many names before me for seeking clarifications. I would urge the Members to be precise while seeking clari-fications. Shri Kapil Verma.

SHRI APIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, it is good that the Minister visited Afghanistan and had detailed talks with the Government. I will begin with the last paragraph first wherein it is stated that they resent outside interference in the internal affairs of India, that the Ministerial visit would strengthen further the age-old bond and friendship between the two countries. About Jammu and Kashmir they said that it would continue to be an integral part of India. Now, after this visit, Dr. Najibullah held a press conference— I do not know whether Dr. Swamy was present there or not. Dr. Najibullah was quoted as having said that Afghanistan and India should join hands to counter the nefarious activities of Pakistan, apart from the issue of Kashmir that he mentioned there. Now, did he discuss it? Because he referred to the political side, I am asking this. Otherwise I would not have asked this. Did he discuss this issue with the Minister and did he have some ideas about

any joint activities? What ideas did he suggest and what steps had he in mind? That is No. 1. No. 2: Dr. Swamy, at a press conference, had identified the problem of transport bottlenecks between the two countries and he told the press that he had made an offer of an air freight service to break the transport deadlock. Now I want to know what the response of the Afghan Government to that was and, if the response was positive, what the details of the proposal are and when he proposes to start it. About exchange of private delegations, private sector delegations,, ". xchange of private service delegations, particularly in ihe sector of medical services etc., I would like to know some more details, what exact ideas he has in mind. I can understand about the public sector. But, as far as the private sector is concerned, it is a little controversial. Therefore, I would like him to elaborate the extent to which he will allow the private sector participation in the joint ventures and other things.

He has said in the fifth paragraph that both sides noted with satisfaction the substantial growth in their bilateral trade during thfe preceding years and agreed to take further steps. I would like to have some more details about what the substantial growth is in the bilateral trade. How? What are the figures? How much has it increased? Afghanistan has been a scene of great trouble. Civil war was going on. War with Pakistan was going on. Even the Soviet troops were there. American intereference was there. There have been so many things there. It was a disturbed area. If the trade has increased during this period, well, I would like to know the details thereof. Then what are the immediate plans for increasing the trade?

Apart from that, he has said that the Indian side expressed its willingness to make specific proposals in this regard and things of this kind. He has given certain ideas. Since he returned, has he thought of some schemes and proposals? If so, I would like to know more details about it.

Thank you very much.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister for having a jaunt at the time when the Government is trying to reduce the expenditure because it appears from this statement that we went there only to help them either in the form of setting up more industries there or to import something from them. What I find is that we are exporting only buses. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the total volume of import and export is with Afghanistan and what fee possibilities are of increasing exports especially because, as he say3, we will be seriously considering Import of more dry fruits, precious stones, hides and skins. These are not very necessasr, and I do not know if our country can spare valuable foreign exchange at today's juncture. So, I would like a clarification on this from him.

When we talk of export of buses, Sir, he himself has said that the land route is all closed. There is hardly any land route available. I don't think we will be able to export buses by air. Even when we talk about the air route, I understand that all LA. flights are grounded. No Indian Airlines flights are going to Afghanistan because the pilots are not being paid enough for travelling to that country. Only the Ariana flights are working. So, what is the plan of the Government or the Minister to overcome these difficulties?

Sir, when he met the hon. President of the Republic of Afghanistan, His Excellency Dr. Najibullah, did he also talk about the policy of national reconciliation and how much this policy of national reconciliation is successful? I understand that the hon. President is talking with the Mujahideens also. What is the development about that? I understand that the Government has control only on the c'ties. They have no control on the villages. They have no factories. There is hardly any agricultural production. What kind of bilateral trade agreement or what kind of bilateral trade development we can have with Afghanistan?

When we talk about private industries, as my friend, Vermaji, has said, I don't

[Shri Santosh Bagrodia]

think, private parties will really venture to go to a disturbed area like Afghanistan.

So, how this visit is going to prove successful for the country in general, I would like to know from the Minister.

Thank you very much.

SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I appreciate the multi-faceted personality of the Commerce Minister who sometimes combines in himself the portfolios of Foreign Affairs and Finance along with his original portfolio of Commerce. He acts like that especially whenever he goes out. We are very happy about it, but let him not create any jealous among" his colleagues, the Foreign Minister and the Finance Minister.

Anyway, I would like to know from the Commerce Minister about one thing. When the Soviets pulled out of Afghanistan, tbey created an impression in our public opinion also that Najibullah will collapse and his Government will not survive. I will be interested to know from the Commerce Minister, what is his impression about the stability of the Najibullah Government, because as everybody knows, we are very friendly to them and we wish them stability and progress. So, we would like to have a first-hand information.

Another point that I would like to know is this. He has talked to the press here, which has covered him very extensively. The words which he used were "India and Afghanistan will have to think together to make Pakistan see reason. " I would like to know an explanation about it. What they really mean by it? At least what does the Commerce Minister really mean about it?

Thirdly, we shall be interested to learn from the Minister as to what are the new areas of coopeartion explored during the Minister's visit.

Fourtbiy, in his statement, he has said that they agreed to set up a joint trade advisory committee on Indo-Afghanistan trade in Kabul and Delhi. We shall be interested to know when it is likely to be formulated or set up. It should be done as early as possible.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR): Shri Ajit P. K. Jogi. Absent.

श्री राम नरेश यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) मान्यवर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने वाणिज्य मंत्री की हैसियत से अफगानिस्तान से लौटने के पश्चात और वहां पर सारी संभावनाओं का पता लगाने के पश्चात् जो पहला वक्तव्य दिया है, उसमें कुछ ऐसी बातें हैं जिनके संबंध में मंत्री महोदय द्वारा स्पष्टीकरण किया जाना आवश्यक है ।

पहली बात तो यह है कि पेज 2 के पैरा अंतिम में "दोनों पक्ष द्विपक्षी व्यापार को बढ़ाने के लिए बेहतर वातावरण बनाने के उद्देश्य से व्यापार में आने वाली बाधाओं को दूर करने पर सहमत हो गए हैं" । मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि दोनों देशों में व्यापार करने में क्या-क्या बाधाएं हैं और उन बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए, जो कहते हैं कि सहमत हो गए हैं, तो बाधाएं क्या थीं और कितने दिनों में उन बाधाओं को दूर करने की दिशा में काम किया जाएगा ?

पृष्ठ 2 के पैरा 2 में "अफगान पक्ष ने भारत द्वारा अफगानिस्तान को पहले सप्लाई की गई बसों की क्वालिटी पर अपना पूर्ण संतोष व्यक्त किया" । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि पिछले दो वर्षों में कितनी बसें अफगानिस्तान को सप्लाई की गई थीं और जो आप लोगों की बातचीत से निष्कर्ष निकला, उसमें से फिर कितनी बसों को, कितने करोड़ रुपए की बसों को फिर से वहां पर बेचने की इच्छा अफगानिस्तान ने जाहिर की है ?

तीसरी बात यह है कि पृष्ठ 1 में "उभयनिष्ठ हितों के उन क्षेत्रों का पता लगाया है जिनमें दोनों देश एक-दूसरे के लाभ हेतु आर्थिक एवं वाणिज्यिक संबंध

बना सकते हैं" । यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि कौन से क्षेत्र हैं ? मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि कौन-कौन से क्षेत्र हैं जिनके बारे में कि आपने पैरा 2 में उल्लेख किया है कि उन क्षत्रों का पता लगाया है जिससे कि दोनों देश एक-दूसरे के लाभ हेतू नजदीक आ सकते हैं ? उन क्षेत्रों को भी आप व्याख्या करने का काम करेंगे ?

साथ ही साथ "भारत द्वारा अधिक आयात हेतू ताजे फलों तथा मेवों, मूल्यवान रत्नों, खालों तथा चमड़ियों आदि जैसी मदो पर गंभीरता से विचार किया जाएगा' महोदय, स्थिति यह है कि हमारे पास फारेन एक्सचेंज रिजर्व में है नहीं । कुल ढाई हजार करोड रुपए रह गए हैं, केवल मुश्किल से 30 दिन जो आयात होता है, उसके लिए, तो किन परिस्थितियों में यह देश इस योग्य बन रहा है कि यह देश वहां से आयात कर सकेगा, यह माननीय मंत्री जी स्पष्ट करेंगे ?

DR. YELAMANCH1LI S1VAJI (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned about the imports of dry fruits, precious stones, hides and skins, etc. and some exports to that country but nothing is mentioned about the exports of garicultural produce to Afghanistan. Are they in need of agricultural produce like tea, pepper, coffee, tobacco, jute, some cereah and other things?

The hon. Minister has mentioned in his statement "... to encourage the private sector in India, the Government agreed to send a delegation fo Afghanistan as early as possible. " May 1 know from the Minister whether any initiative has been taken in this regard?

The hon. Minister ha3 also mentioned "Both sides agreed to remove trade cons traints in order ot encourage a better en vironment for expansion of bilateral trade. " What are the constraint 'hat are in exis tence now? How both the Governments propose to overcome these existing cons traints?

The hon. Minister has also mentioned "Equally they resent outside interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan as well as in India. " What are the outside interferences that are in existence both in Afghanistan and in India at the moment? On what points both the countries agreed in regard to the outside interference? May I also know from the Minister who were the officials in the Ministry of Commerce who accompanied the Minister?

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे वाणिज्य मंत्री ने एक अच्छा काम किया जो अफगानिस्तान गये। मैंने... **(व्यवधान)**

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : राम अवधेश जी को जवाब देने वालों में बठना चाहिये था ... **(व्यवधान)**

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र (बिहार) : तो मैंने मंत्री महोदय से अलग से भी कहा था कि यह काम आपने अच्छा किया । पिछले साल मैं भी काबुल गया था और वापिस आकर के इस सदन ने एक प्रस्ताव भी पास किया था । उस वक्त भी मैंने कुछ चीजो की चर्चा की थी और अभी भी मैं चाहूंगा कि जबकि वह आप ही के विभाग का हो या न हो लेकिन जैसा कि हमारी चतुर्वेदी जी ने कहा, आप बहुत से विभाग को कम्बाइंड कर लेते हैं जब विदेश में जाते हैं । वह अच्छा काम होगा या बुरा मैं नहीं जानता, लेकिन मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूं ।

काबुल वाले अपना हवाई जहाज हमारे देश में भेजते हैं और हम अपना नहीं भेजते हैं, इसका क्या औचित्य है ? मैंने सरकार को लिखा था जवाब आया कि हमारे पास एयरक्राफ्ट नहीं है । अफगानिस्तान को है और आपको नहीं है तो दुनियां क्या इस बात का विश्वास करेगी कि आप अपने एक मित्र देश के यहां अपना हवाई जहाज नहीं भेजते और उसका हवाई जहाज रोज आता है । अगर बहुत ज्यादा खतरनाक स्थिति है तो हवाई जहाज मार कर गिरा दिया गया होता

[श्री चतुरानन मिश्र]

अब आपके व्यापार की बात हम करते हैं । वहां के लोग जो भारतीय मूल के हैं व्यापारी, सिख लोग हैं जैसे । उन्होंने वहां का सिटीजनशिप ले लिया है । मैं उनसे मिला । वे लोग अफगानिस्तान के लिये कपड़ा हांगकांग से मंगाते हैं, भारत से कपड़ा नहीं मंगाते । क्योंकि वे भारतीय मूल के थे इसलिये मैंने पूछा कि आप कपड़ा भारत से क्यों नहीं मंगाते, कपड़ा तो हम बहुत आपको दे सकते हैं । उन्होंने कहा कि आपका कपड़ा बहुत ज्यादा महंगा पड़ता है और हांगकांग से दूसरी जगहों से हम सस्ता कपड़ा खरीदते हैं । तो मंत्री महोदय, यह तो आप ही का विभाग है कि विचार कीजिये कि क्या आपका सामान कोई खरीदने के लिये तैयार नहीं होता ? इतना महंगा है तो आप विचार करके कहिये कि आपकी क्या स्थिति है ?

एक और शिकायत उन लोगों ने की थी । वहां हमारे सिख लोग हैं । जब ब्लू स्टार आपरेशन हुआ तब और अभी वहां पर वे विरोध प्रदर्शन करना चाहते थे भारत सरकार के खिलाफ । लेकिन वहां की सरकार ने उन लोगों को बुलाकर कहा कि हम इसकी इजाजत नहीं देंगे कि हमारे मित्र देश के खिलाफ आप यहां पर कोई प्रदर्शन वगैरह करें । लेकिन उनको शिकायत थी कि भारत में आप लोग जो वहां से रिफ्यूजी आए पाकिस्तान से ट्रेन्ड लोग जो अपराध करते हैं उनको इजाजत सिर्फ हमारे खिलाफ प्रचार का नहीं देते हैं बल्कि उनको डिप्लोमेटस पर हमला करने के लिए भी देते हैं । मैं मंत्री महोदय से चाहूंगा कि चाहे जो भी सरकार हो--मैं नहीं कहता कि आप जुम्मा जुम्मा आठ रोज पहले आए थे, जुम्मा से पहले जो थे, वह भी रोक नहीं पाए, लेकिन क्या सरकार इसे रोक सकेगी या नहीं ?

आप तो पहले जनसंघ वगैरह में रहे हुए हैं, आपने कहा कि काश्मीर के सवाल पर अफगानिस्तान वाले आपके साथ हैं कि वह भारत का अभिन्न अंग है, तो थोड़ा बी०जे०पी० वालों को भी कह दीजिए ।

श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी : यहां कोई है ही नहीं ...

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : खत भेज देंगे । यह बात आनी चाहिए क्योंकि वह लोग समझ रखे हैं कि जितने मुसलमान हैं वह भारत विरोधी हैं, वह हिंदू विरोधी हैं । वे यह नहीं समझते हैं कि इस्लामिक देशों में जब बेनजीर भुट्टो गई थीं तो तीन चार देशों ने उनका समर्थन किया था, बाकी सभी देशों ने कहा कि शिमला ऐग्रीमेंट के अनुसार कार्यवाही की जाए । इसको भी थोड़ा विदेश मंत्री से कहिए । बी०जे०पी० से यह बात प्रकट कीजिए क्योंकि आप पहले वहां का नमक खाए हुए हैं । हम इस बात को कहेंगे तो उतना अच्छा असर नहीं होगा ।

महोदय, वहां पर अंग्रेजी स्कूलों के लिए टीचर्स नहीं हैं। मैंने अपने शिक्षा मंत्रालय को कहा कि उनको टीचर्स दीजिए और सरकार ने जवाब दिया था कि हम देंगे । यह धारणा फैली हुई है कि गांवों में वहां की सरकार ने नहीं है जब कि एक प्राविंस को छोड़कर तमाम जगह पर कंप्रोमाइज करके उन्होंने अपनी हुकूमत कायम कर ली है । जब से सोवियत संघ वाले चले गए, वे काफी मजबूत हो गए हैं । जब तक सोवियत संघ वाले थे तो वे समझते होंगे कि वे सोवियत संघ के दलाल हैं जैसे आम तौर से कम्यूनिस्टों के लिए कहा जाता है । इसलिए उन्होंने नेशनल रिकांसिलियेशन का प्रोग्राम दिया है । मैं चाहता हूं कि यद्यपि आपका यह विभाग नहीं है तथापि आप तो सरकार की तरफ से यह स्टेटमेंट रख रहे हैं, इसलिए मैं कह रहा हूं कि अब रिकांसिलियेशन प्रोग्राम में यूनाइटेड नेशंस के मातहत चुनाव कराने पर भी राजीनामा हो गया है । उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि चुनाव से यह सरकार हट जाएगी और एक कमिशन देश के चुनाव कराएंगे जिसमें विरोधी दल के लोग भी होंगे, इसलिए हम चाहते हैं कि भारत सरकार ने उन मसलों को अमरीका

और अन्य दूसरे देशों के साथ जिनके साथ भारत के फ्रेंडली रिलेशंस हैं, उनके साथ ले तो अच्छा होगा क्योंकि हम समझते हैं कि अफ़गानिस्तान भारत का एक मजबूत मित्र हैं । यह अपनी पोजिशन को कंसोलिडेट कर ले तो उसका असर पाकिस्तान पर भी पड़ेगा । मैं नहीं कहता कि आप दोनों मिलकर पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ़ ट्रीटी बना लें, यह आपका अगर पहले वाला ख्याल होगा तो गलत होगा । इसलिए मित्रता देखने के लिए एक मजबूत मित्र का होना जरुरी है । यह आगे के लिए काम देगा । एक बार फिर मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देता हूं और चाहता हूं कि इन बातों का वे खुलासा करें ।

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिम बंगाल) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं वाणिज्य मंत्री का अभिनंदन करती हूं उनकी यात्रा के लिए । अफ़गानिस्तान के साथ भारत के हमेशा से मैत्रीपूर्ण संबंध रहे हैं और भारत से हमेशा उसके परंपरागत बंधुत्वपूर्ण संबंध रहे तो निश्चित रूप से हमारे पडौसी देशों के साथ वाणिज्यक संबंध भी सुधरेंगे जो हमारे लिए भी अच्छा होगा ।

महोदय, इस वक्तव्य में वाणिज्य मंत्री जी ने जो बातें रखी हैं उनमें से कुछ बातें पर मैं सवालात करना चाहती हूं ।

वाणिज्य मंत्री जी ने इस बात का संकेत दिया है कि वे कौन-कौन सी चीजें हैं जिनका हम आयात करेंगे लेकिन भारत से अफ़गानिस्तान को कौन-कौन सी चीजें निर्यात की जायेंगी इसकी संभावना पर कोई संकेत नहीं दिया है । केवल एक संकेत मिला है कि बसें जो भेजी गयी थीं उनसे वे लोग संतुष्ट हुए हैं ।

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह (बिहार) : प्राइवेट सैक्टर को इन्करेंज किया जाएगा .....

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : दूसरा मेरा सवाल यह है कि राष्ट्रीय मोर्चे की सरकार के साथ अफ़गानिस्तान की सरकार के बीच तीन समझौते हुए थे तो क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री जब अफ़गानिस्तान गए थे तो उन तीन समझौते को लेकर कोई प्रगति हुई या नहीं ? इस संबंध में हमारे वाणिज्य मंत्री ने कोई बातचीत की या नहीं यह मैं जानना चाहती हूं क्योंकि वे समझौते भी काफ़ी महत्वपूर्ण थे । इसके अलावा इसी वक्तव्य के पृष्ठ 2 पर 18वीं पंक्ति में त्रिपक्षीय भागीदारी का उल्लेख किया गया है तो यह त्रिपक्षीय भागीदारी मेरी समझ में नहीं आयी है । कि इस त्रिपक्षीय भागीदारी का क्या मतलब है । यह भी बताने की कृपा करें । अगला सवाल मेरा यह है कि भारत और अफ़गानिस्तान के बीच में व्यापार संतुलन की क्या स्थिति रही है । अगला प्रश्न मेरा यह है कि आज के इस युग में जब विकासशील देशों में, साम्राज्य-वादी देशों में लगातार वाद-विवाद के मुद्दे उभर कर आए हैं—विकाशसील देशों पर ऋणों का बोझ बढता जा रहा है और इंटलेक्चुअल प्रोपर्टी राइट जैसा मुद्दा लगातार वाद-विवाद का मुद्दा बना हुआ है तो क्या इस मुद्दे पर अफ़गानिस्तान की सरकार से कोतू बातचीत हुई है ? अगर कोई बातचीत हुई है तो अफ़गानिस्तान सरकार का इस पर क्या रवैया था ? मैं वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से चाहूगी मेरे इन प्रश्नो का जवाब दे दें ।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you for having given me this opportunity to speak. I think the Commerce Minister for having visited a friendly country to improve our trade relations between Afghanistan and India. Sir, *tht* important area in which they have been collaborating to improve the trade relations is only a small item. Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Commerce Minister whether India offered its technology in the field of agriculture and industry for the better development of Afghanistan since it is a developing country. Although both the countries are developing countries, India is in a better position than Afghanistan and whether the hon. Minister has opened his mind about... *(Interruption)*

SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: What is the difference in their per capita income?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: IJie Commerce Minister will tell you. *(Interruption)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): All Samys should be Ministers.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I would like to know whether the hon. Minister had discussions about giving of our technology to Afghanistan or not. Secondly, Sir, about the participation in the joint ventures and projects, whether the Government of India has identified projects for the purpose of collaborating with Af-ghanisan and whether detailed d'scussions were held or they are at a preliminary stage. It is a good idea that Joint Trade Advisory Committee is to be set up in both the countries for improving the trade. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Joint Trade Advisory Committee which is going to bs set up in both the countries is only for the promoiion of trade or for the purpose of improving trade relations. Thirdly, will the officers of both the countries be included in this Advisory Committee? Another important aspect about our India's unity and security is this. The hon. Minister who is competent enough, who knows the international affairs very well, had discussions with the Afghanistan President and ths Prime Minister and I whole-heartedly welcome the open decision taken by the Afghanistan Government on India's stand on Jammu and Kashmir. Sir, there is a canard being raised by the Pakistan Government that all the Muslim countries are supporting Pakistan on the question of Jammu and Kashmir. That impression has been removed by various Arab countries including Af-ghanistan and the discussion the 1«»n Commerce Minister held relating to Jammu and Kashmir is vital in this respect.

Now about the target of trade and commerce. No target has been mentioned in this statement. I would like to know what target has been fixed in relation to India's imports and exports wiht Afghanistan and *vice versa.*

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देती हूं और मैं माननीय वाणिज्य मंत्री जी को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहती हूं कि उन्होंने अपने दल बल के साथ अफगानिस्तान की यात्रा की और बहुत से व्यापारिक स्रोत व संभावनाओं का पता लगाया है। मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि मंत्री जी यह बतायें कि बसों की क्वालिटी पर तो अफगान सरकार ने संतोष व्यक्त किया है, लेकिन और कौन से आइटम्स हैं जो भारत से भेज गए हैं और क्या ऐसे आइटम्स भी भेजे गए हैं जिनकी गुणवत्ता के संबंध में उन्होंने शिकायत दर्ज कराई है और हमारे व्यापारिक संबंधों में क्या कोई इस तरह की बात पैदा हुई है ?

दूसरी बात मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि चर्म उद्योग, टैक्टाइल्स और संसाधनों के संबंध में भी उन्होंने संयुक्त उद्यम स्थापित करने की अपनी इच्छा बताई है और औद्योगिक इस्टट स्थापित करने की भी उन्होंने प्रस्ताव रखा है, इसमें भारत की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है और उसमें दोनों की परस्पर भागोदारी क्या होगी, किस देश का क्या सहयोग होगा, उनका क्या सहयोग होगा, भारत का क्या सहयोग होगा ? दूसरी बात यह भी है कि चार पहिया बस यहां से भेजी जा रही है, क्या उन्होंने दो पहिए या दूसरे वाहनों की भी मांग की या उनकी खपत की संभावना व्यक्त की है और साथ ही क्या उन्होंने इनके कलपुर्जों की भी मांग रखी है ? क्या इस तरह के प्रस्ताव रखे गए हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहती हूं ।

कुमारी सईदा खातून (मध्य प्रदेश) : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को मुबारकबाद देना चाहती हूं और उपसभाध्यक्ष जी आपने टाइम दिया, इसके लिए आपको धन्यवाद देती हूं ।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से दो-तीन स्पष्टीकरण पूछना चाहूंगी । मेरी पहली बात तो यह है कि यह जो द्विपक्षीय व्यापार भारत और अफगानिस्तान के बीच होगा इसमें किन-किन वस्तुओं का आयात

निर्यात किया जाएगा और इस व्यापार में क्या भारत की विदेशी मुद्रा का भी लाभ हुआ है ? दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि खनन के क्षेत्र में भारत अग्रणी देश माना जाता है । खनन के क्षेत्र में सहयोग करके भारत विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित कर सकता है । इसलिए मैं जानना चाहती हूं कि इस बारे में भी क्या आपने विचार-विमर्श किया है या आपने सिर्फ अनुभव और निपुणता प्रदान करने की पेशकश की है ? क्या अनुभव और निपुणता के अलावा खनन की चीजें भी क्या उन्होंने मांगी हैं ? एक क्वैश्चन मेरा यह भी है कि एक प्रतिनिधि मंडल आपने नियुक्त किया है और इसके लिए भारत में निजी क्षेत्र को प्रोत्साहन करने के लिए उपाय करने की बात भी की गई है । मैं यह जानना चाहतीं हूं कि इस प्रतिनिधि मंडल में कौन कौन लोग जायेंगे और यह मंडल कब तक भेजा जाएगा ? आपने एक समिति भी गठित की है । मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि यह समिति कब तक पूरी गठित कर दी जाएगी और जो संयुक्त व्यापार सलाहकार बोर्ड स्थापित करने की बात कहीं गई है इसमें भारत की तरफ से कौन कौन लोग इसके सदस्य रहेंगे और यह समिति जो आपने गणित की है, क्या आप इसका थोड़ा-बहुत विवरण देंगे ?

मेरा अंतिम स्पष्टीकरण यह है कि इसमें जो जम्मू और काश्मीर के लिए आपने लिखा है कि जम्मू और काश्मीर के बारे में भी उन लोगों ने स्पष्टतौर पर यह कहा है कि जम्मू और कश्मीर भारत का अंग हैं तो मैं जानना चाहती हूं कि यह सिर्फ उन्होंने का ही भर है या स्पष्टतौर से लिखकर के कुछ प्रमाण दिया है ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहूंगी कि आपकी डा० नजीबुल्लाह से जो बातचीत हुई है, उसके दौरान क्या एग्रीकल्चरल संबंधी व्यपार की बातें सामने आई हैं क्योंकि एग्रोकल्चर फील्ड में भारत बहुत उत्तम स्थान रखता है ?

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I think the honourable Shri Santosh Bagrodia was a bit unjust on our very widely travelled Commerce Minister in envying him for his jaunt to Afghanistan. For him it is nothing. But I would like to be enlightened on one thing. The Minister said in the first paragraph: "This is the first bilateral visit of a Minister of Shri Chandra Shekhar's Government to a friendly country. " This means there must be some unfriendly countries which the Ministers of Shri Chandra Shekhar's Government visited. Can we have a list of such visits? *(Interruptions)*

My next question is this. The Commerce Minister says, "Officials of various Ministries accompanied him". Has the Ministry of External Affairs contributed some official?

My next point was referred to eailier by the honourable Shrimati Sarala Mahesh-wari. The Minister has mentioned what India would import from Afghanistan but not what Afghanistan would import lrom India. Besides buses a consignment of wheat went earlier. *(Interruptions)* At one place in the statement it is said that the Indian Government proposed joint ventures and collaboration of public and private sectors with Afghanistan. At another place it is said that India agreed to the private sector participating in the joint sector in Afghanistan. Now, what is the real position? Now, what is the real position? I do not know whether this seemed to him to be an opportune moment for projecting private industries in a country which was ruled by the Marxists. He should clarify this point. Some Marxist party existed in Afghanistan. My precise question is whether that change prompted him to project the private sector instead of the public sector.

श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी : दुकान बन्द हो चुकी है ।

प्रो० सौरीन्द्र भट्टाचार्य : दुकानें कहां कहां बन्द हुई हैं वही हम बोल रहे हैं ।

Then, with regard to the discussion with the Afghan President and the Afghan Prime Minister, the formulation seems to

be a bit strange to me, the language regarding Jammu and Kashmir. It says that all of them stated that Jammu and Kashmir was and would continue to be an integral part of India. How can Afghanistan use that language? It is for India to tell that, to tell that it will continue as such and it is for the Afghan leaders to concur in that. Therefore, this statement should have been more happily worded. Therefore, I have to ask whether there was anyone from the External Affairs Ministry in his entourage. May be there was none and I hope that even if there had been someone, he had no hand in formulating this thing. The only happy thing is that the visit was a good one. But, at the same time, this should have been taken better care of instead of engaging oneself in bravado. Thank you, Sir.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : माननीय, वाणिज्य मंत्री जी ने जो यह बयान दिया है, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इन्होंने यह बताने का कष्ट क्यों नहीं किया कि आज की तारीख में अफ़गानिस्तान और हमारे देश के बीच में बैलेंस में आफ़ पेमेंट की स्थिति क्या है और उसमें कितना अंतर है, यह हमारे हक में है या खिलाफ़ है ? कामर्स मिनिस्टर का बयान कामर्स मिनिस्टर की हैसियत से होना चाहिये और कई मंत्रालयों की ओर से मिला जुला यह बयान है । उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसमें यह बताया गया हैं कि कई मंत्रालयों के एक्सपर्ट लोग भी इन के साथ गये । तो बैलेंस आफ़ पेमेंट तथा अफ़गानिस्तान से हमारे ट्रेड की क्या स्थिति है ? आज की तारीख में इतना हमारा इम्पोर्ट है वेल्यू में और वाल्यूम में और एक्सपोर्ट उस देश के साथ वैल्यू में कितना है और वाल्यूम में कितना है । यह इसमें होना चाहिये । इसीलिए मैं चाहता हूं मंत्री जी इस विषय में बताएं ।

दूसरी बात जो ईम्पोर्टेंट है पेज 2 पैराग्राफ़ 4 में बाईपार्टाइट और ट्राइपार्टाइट पार्टनरशिप इन ट्रेड का उल्लेख किया गया है । साथ-साथ में अंतिम वाक्य यह कहा गया है :—

"In this connection, the Indian side agreed to take steps to encourage the private sector in India to send a dele gation to Afghanistan as early as possi ble. " ...

तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस अफ़गानिस्तान यात्रा का सारा उद्देश्य यही था कि भारत के प्राइवेट सेक्टर को इनकरेज किया जाए और भारत के प्राइवेट सेक्टर के लोग अफ़गानिस्तान जाकर अपनी इक्नामिक एक्टिविडीज और ट्रेड बढ़ायें । ज्वायंट वेंचर का क्या सारा मतलब यही था ? क्योंकि इस पैराग्राफ़ में शुरू वाला है कि पब्लिक सेक्टर, प्राइवेट सेक्टर दोनों का वेंचर होगा, ज्वाइंट वेंचर । लेकिन इसमें जो कंबलूडिंग लाइन है वह बात है कि यह एग्रीड हुआ था कि इंडियन प्राइवेट सेक्टर के लोग अफ़गानिस्तान में जाएंगे और वहां अपनी एक्टिविटी को करेंगे । तो क्या मंत्री जी के इस दौरे का मूल उद्देश्य यही था । वे बताएंगे कि पब्लिक सेक्टर से कितनी एक्टिविटीज लोग बढ़ाएंगे और प्राइवेट सेक्टर के लोग जाकर कितनी बढ़ाएंगे । इसका कुछ नक्शा वैल्यू और वाल्यूम के हिसाब से रखेंगे इससे जरा स्पष्ट होगा कि सचमुच में वे प्राइवेट सेक्टर के स्पोक्समैन के रूप में अफ़गानिस्तान गये या पब्लिक सेक्टर से स्पोक्समैन के रूप में गये । धन्यवाद ।

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, श्री सुब्रमण्यम् जी का मंत्री के रूप में यह पहला वक्तव्य है जिस पर स्पष्टीकरण पूछने के लिए मैं खड़ा हुआ हूं । मंत्री तो यह आज हुए हैं । पहले विदेश विदेश में घूमते रहे हैं । चमत्कारिक व्यक्ति के रूप में लोग इनको जानते रहे हैं अब इनके ऊपर दायित्व आया तथा बहुत कुछ श्रेय इस सरकार को बनाने में श्री सुब्रमण्यन् स्वामी जी का है । इन्होंने इंडिवीजुअल होते हुए भी पूरे देश की सरकार बनाने में जो पहल की है, आने वाले दिनों में उस पर विचार होगा । लेकिन वाणिज्य मंत्री के रूप में, विधि मंत्री के रूप में इन्होंने पिछले दिनों जितनी अपनी चर्चा इस सेशन में करायी और न्यूज में रहने के मंत्री के रूप में जितने बड़े मास्टर ये हैं, उतना दूसरा कोई

आदमी दिखाई नहीं पड़ता । करोड़ों रुपये का कागज और स्याही अखबारों पर खर्च हुआ, लोग पढ़ते रहे इनको...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): You please seek clarifications.

DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: I am coming to it, Sir, I am tlw last speaker.

अफ़गानिस्तान में चन्द्रशेखर जी के एक मात्र मंत्री के रूप में पहले मित्र राष्ट्र का दौरा करने वाले मंत्री के रूप में इन्होंने वहां के उद्योग और खाद्यान्न मंत्री से बात की, अनेक और मंत्रियों से भी बात की । इनकी विशेष रूचि विदेशी मामले रहे हैं । उसमें काश्मीर भारत का अभिन्न अंग है यह भी दिया है । तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि कौन से ऐसे मुस्लिम राष्ट्र हैं जो काश्मीर को भारत का अभिन्न अंग मानने से इन्कार कर रहे हैं और उस पर सुब्रह्मण्यम् स्वामी जी की सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है । दूसरा इस समय डेवलपिंग नेशन्स में वर्ल्ड ट्रेड बड़े संकट में है जिनमें भारत, पाकिस्तान, अफ़गानिस्तान आदि हैं । आपने अफ़गानिस्तान से जो नयी द्विपक्षीय त्रिपक्षीय वार्ता की है इसमें दिल्ली और अफ़गानिस्तान में एक ऐसा संस्थान बनाने की बात है जो एक दूसरे नेशन की व्यवसायिक रुचि को वाच करता रहे । यह बहुत अच्छी बात है । हिंदुस्तान की ओर से जो पहले माल जा रहा था उससे नया कौन कौन सा माल देने की बात कह रहे हैं । औ उनसे कौन-कौन सी सामग्री इस देश में नई आयात कर रहे हैं और उससे कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अपने देश को प्राप्त होगी ?

केवल भारत और अफ़गानिस्तान से तो आप कर लेंगे, लेकिन म जानना चाहता हूं आपसे कि ईरान और पाकिस्तान, यह भी दो हमारे आसपास के पड़ोसी सटे हुए देश हैं—क्या इनसे व्यापार का कोई नया रास्ता आपके वाणिज्य मंत्री के रूप में निकालने की संभावना है या निकाला है आपने, जिससे भारत का भी लाभ हो और अफ़गानिस्तान ने जब समर्पित रूप से हमारे साथ व्यवसायिक समझौता किया है, तो उसका भी लाभ हो ?

यही मैं स्पष्टीकरण माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं और विश्वास करता हूं कि आपके स्पष्टीकरण में जो कुछ आप कहेंगे, उससे पिछले ग्यारह महीनों में जो व्यवसायिक ह्रास हुआ है विदेशी मुद्रा का, अवमूल्यन देश के खजाने में हुआ है, उसकी आपूर्ति में कितने कदम आप आगे चले हैं ? क्योंकि आप अकेले अपने दल के मालिक और साठ शासक लोगों को लेकर हमारे समर्थन पर सरकार बना ली, तो हम आपसे अपेक्षा करेंगे कि आप पिछली सरकार की जो खामियां, गल्तियां और कमियां थीं आर्थिक क्षेत्र में विभीषिका दूषण और कमी फ़ैलाने की, बैंक्रप्ट नेशन के रूप में भारत को खड़ा करने की विदेशी मुद्रा के क्षेत्र में, उसमें इस समझौते से क्या फ़ायदा होगा, इस पर आप प्रकाश डालेंगे ।

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the hon. Minister has said in the statement that the Indian side expressed its willingness to participate actually in the economic recovery and development of Afghanistan through joint ventures. Just I want to ask the hon. Minister as to what are the specific areas of joint ventures. It is not mentioned in the statement. Sir, it is also stated in the statement regarding Jammu and Kashmir that all of them unequivocally stated that Jammu and Kashmir was and will continue to be an integral part of India and any outside interference should not be tolerated. Sir, Pakistan is interfering in the internal affairs of India as well as of Afghanistan by encouraging the Afghan mujahidin by giving training in arms and helping them to infiltrate into Kashmir. I want to know whether this has been discussed and if so, what is the decision arrived at. Sir, my third clarification which I want to seek is: Are you applying the most favoured nation policy with regard to mutual trade in both the countries? My fourth and last clarification

[M'ohd. Khaleelur Rahman]

is this: The statement is silent regarding the bilateral cooperation in the educational field. Is there any programme for ex-"hange of students and specially admission of Afghan students in the technical institutions in India? Thank you, Sir..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI Mi A. BABY): Mr. Minister.

SHRI SIJBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, a large number of hon. Members took part to ask for clarification. That itself is a tribute to the regard India has for Afghanistan. We have ancient links with that country, and my visit is only a part of firming up that relationship. Sir, I shall not be able to answer any of the questions relating to Foreign Affairs. because it has got nothing to do with my Ministry. I was only simply reporting what the President of Afghanistan said, and nothing more beyond that. Of course, it is the policy of the Government headed by Shri Chandra Shekhar to have good relations with all our neighbours, and Afghanistan is also one of our neighbours.

Sir, instead of answering questions by name of the questioners, I will divide it up into topics and answer it 7. 00 P. M. accordingly. First question deals with trade. What is the level of trade? The figures are as follows. In 1988-89, total trade between India and Afghanistan was of the order of Rs. 56 crores. It rose to Rs. 105. 18 crores next year, that is, in 1989-90. In the succeeding six months, that is, April to September 1990, the figure is Rs. 60 crores and if it were to continue on that basis, the annual figure would come to about Rs. 120 crores. What is significant about this trade is that exports to Afghanistan have been sharply rising. For example, in 1988-89, exports were of the order of Rs. 39. 5 crores; it rose to Rs. 87. 98 or roughly l!s. 88 crores next year, whereas imports from Afghanistan have remained stagnant *it* Rs. *16'. 51* crores and Rs. 17. 2 crores next year. So, the trade between India and Afghanistan is tremendously in our favour.

Question was asked as to what agreement was signed by the previous National Front Government and what did they do. i They took a decision to double the trade but there is no evidence that anything of that kind has happened. We would like to see that that decision is implemented as quickly as possible. Now, Afghanistan Government has some problems, about this adverse balance of trade and we have proposed to them a number of alternative ways of meeting this problem. One of them is that we can create joint ventures for mining and- the Afghanistan share could be a. part of the unfavourable balance of trade. That means that whatever they would have to pay to us would go into equity. So we can convert this unfavourable balance of trade in terms of joint sector ventures.

Question was asked about items for exports and imports. Our main exports are meet, tea, rubber products, tyres, drugs, pharmaceuticals and some engineering items. Main imports from Afghanistan are fresh fruits, and dry fruits. This is the present position of the trade.

Much has been said about the private sector involvement and agreement to bring . in • the private sector into Afghanistan. I would like. to say here that this was- a suggestion made by Afghanistan Government. They repeatedly made this suggestion that they want our private sector. There hais been a fair amount of change in the economic policy in Afghanistan on this matter and in keeping with that, they are preferring that we send our private sector delegations. They. have heen insisting for a number of times and ultimately we agreed, that all right, we will arrange to encourage our private sector to go there. And they can decide about it. 'There is ho question of the Government of India preferring private sector-over public sector.

. A question was asked about the joint ventures and the areas of joint ventures that we agreed. The area is) mining, parti-

cularly coal, and also copper when the Afghan Government is ready, then food processing, leather and several other areas. Our officials of the Export Corporation of the Ministry of Commerce stayed behind and they are looking at other areas of light engineering etc. where we can have joint ventures. So we are prepared for co-operating with Afghanistan on a wide variety of joint ventures at the public sector level also. We are even prepared to send our skilled manpower of teachers, doctors, and so on. In fact, there is one hospital that we have built there which has been appreciated. We have done other things in terms of showing our friendship towards them.

Another question was in regard transport. One hon. Member jokingly or sneeringly asked 'Are you going to export buses by air?' Well, we had taken buses by ships all the way to Odesea, in the Soviet Union, and from there they were sent to Afghanistan by land route. This takes a long time. Therefore, we are exploring alternatives.

In my Ministry, we are discussing. I am not making any announcement because it is not finalised yet. We are discussing the possibility of the Commerce Ministry setting up its own air cargo division whereby we are able to ensure that the public sector exports reach their destinations without our having *to* depend on commercial aircraft.

SHRI KAPiL VERM A: What is the route?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: It is only a proposal. At the moment, it is not wide. It is only in relation to Afghanistan. But it will be for a wider area. It is only a proposal. We are discussing it in the Ministry. We have not reached any conclusion. When we are able to do that, I will come to Parliament and inform hon. Members. This is a concept which we should take seriously because on of thecomplaints against our export performanceis that we are not able to keep to theschedules. The complaint invariably hadbeen that aircraft were not available or that to a particular area they cannot go.Afghanistan would be the beneficiary of such an air cargo division. Then, it will be much easier. We are examining the alternatives.For example, there is the Bunder Abbas Port in Iran. From there, there is a safe land route to Afghanistan. We can go *via* Iran. This is another route that we are considering. It is possible to go through Pakistan, but then we have to pass through the Mujahideen territory and we have not really done anything concrete.

Therefore, these are the two alternatives. One is to have our own air cargo division and the other is to go through the sea route, through Iran. These are the two possibilities that we are seriously considering.Sir, we had discussions with the Afghan Government. There were many other questions where we had discussions with the Government representatives and the trade. The discussions were quite free and frank because the Afghan people are like that. They are very straightforward. They discussed very frankly. Then, as many Members mentioned, I saw there textiles imported from Hong Konk and South Korea. I saw soap from the U. S. A. Lux soap, which is manufactured in India. I found it there, imported from the U. S. A. and England. Therefore, the point is, if we go in a big way, there are a number of products which we can supply more speedily to Afghanistan than they are available from other countries. Much will depend upon what follow-up action wei take in this regard.

[Shri Subramanian Swamy]

As far as the composition of the delegation is concerned, it consisted of representatives from the Ministries of Commerce, Energy, Mines, the Geological Survey of India, the Mineral Exploration Corporation of India and the Projects and Equipment Corporation (P. E. C). The Ambassador was also associated in all these discussions so that the External Affairs Ministry's Point of view would be known to us on various points. There was \o meeting I went to where the Ambassador was not present.

Sir, my visit to Afghanistan was for increasing trade co-operation between the two countries, India and Afghanistan. Incidentally, President Najib and the Foreign Minister of Afghanistan took the opportunity to express their solidarity with us on Kashmir, which is so dear to us. That is why I have included this also in my statement. This is all I wanted to say. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): The House is now adjourned and we will meet again tomorrow, at 11 a. m.

The House then adjourned at ten minutes past seven of the clock, till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 9th January, 1991.

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